World Bank Aid for Poverty Alleviation Programmes

45. SHRIJESUDASUSEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank propose to focus on poverty ridden States in India and to collaborate with Government of India to achieve the poverty alleviation targets under the millennium development goals;

(b) whether World Bank would aim at accomplishing the Tenth Plan objectives by giving financial support to reform oreinted States that would simultaneously change ways to engage with the largest and poorest States too;

(c) if so, whether the World Bank has also identified poverty ridden states in India; and

(d) if so, which are the States and by when World Bank is likely to provide help and assistance to these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (d) The World Bank strategy retains an essentially reform and performance—based approach to the states and it also intends to open up new opportunities for engagement with the largest and poorest states. The World Bank also aims to build a productive development relationship with four states where poverty is increasingly concentrated—Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh.

Measures to reduce debt servicing burden of States

46. DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAMANADEVI BARUPAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States such asAndhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and West Bengal have decided to approach the Central Government to reduce their debt servicing burden;

(b) if so, what is the total debt position of these States;

(c) whether Andhra Pradesh has an interest burden of about Rs. 8,443 crores against the State loan of Rs. 57,151 crores and loans worth about Rs. 46,000 crores were borrowed during the previous nine years;